

**TOWN OF BUCKEYE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**

**November 14, 2012**

**MINUTES**

Town Hall  
530 E. Monroe Avenue  
Buckeye, AZ 85326  
6:30 pm

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call**

Teresa Bible, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Members Present – Chair Teresa Bible and Board Members Alex Villa, Michelle McCombs, Sue Mros, Garnett Sailor, Dee Dee Sernas, Linda Gross and Council Liaison Michelle Hess

Staff Present – Community Services Director Cheryl Sedig, Conservation & Project Manager Robert Wisener, Recreation Supervisor Miranda Gomez, Recreation Coordinator Doug Strong, Parks Manager Fred Sanchez, and Management Assistant Daniel Higgins

**2. Comments from the Public**

No members of the public provided comments at this meeting.

**3. Introductions of New Board Members – Christie McCauley & Linda Gross**

Chair Bible introduced the two new board members; however Christie McCauley was unable to attend the meeting. Board member Gross thanked the Committee and was excited to serve on the Community Services Board.

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 22, 2012**

A motion was made by Board Member McCombs and seconded by Board Member Villa to approve the minutes for the August 22, 2012 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. New Business**

**5a – Presentation by Cheryl Sedig, Director in regards to the Social Services Advisory Board being merged into the Community Services Advisory Board**

Ms. Sedig informed the board that effective July 1, 2012, Maricopa County did not renew the Community Action Program (CAP) contract with the Town. The County CAP program took a 50% cut in funds, resulting in a reduction of program sites from 8 down to 4. Unfortunately, Buckeye's office was one of the eliminated sites and the Town's CAP staff was laid off as well. The financial assistance that was available to Buckeye residents is now administered through the Gila Bend CAP office. There are a few social programs that the Town will continue to oversee including the Angel Tree Program, Salvation Army programs, Brown Bag program, Nina Mason Pullium funds, transportation for medical appointments, and congregate and home delivered meals. Since the majority of social programs and the financial assistance that came along with them are now administered by the Gila Bend CAP office, Buckeye's Mayor and Council decided to place the Social Services Advisory Board on inactive status and add some of the board members to the Community Services Advisory Board, which was in need of members. Two of the Social Services Advisory Board members were reassigned to the Community Services Advisory Board, including Linda Gross and Christie McCauley. Lazelle Hall, another member of the Social Services Advisory Board will be reassigned to the Community Services Advisory Board by Council at their December meeting.

Ms. Sedig informed the Board that Ms. Gross and Ms. McCauley were creating a Buckeye Social Services 501©3 that would allow the group to fundraise and apply for grant funds to meet the needs of disadvantaged people in Buckeye. Ms. Sedig stated the Community Services Advisory Board will now be responsible for reviewing and providing recommendations for social service issues in Buckeye. Board member Gross stated that issues related to social services would fit well within the purview of the

Community Services Advisory Board. Board member Mros said the senior program was very much involved with a majority of social programs mentioned and would continue to do so.

**5b. – Presentation by Miranda Gomez, Recreation Supervisor concerning the establishment of a Ramada Reservation Policy**

Ms. Gomez stated that since the opening of Sundance Park, reservations for ramadas more than doubled now that the total number of ramadas went from 3 to 7. Currently, to reserve a ramada, residents need to call ahead and there is no limitation on the number of ramadas or length of time they can be reserved. The Recreation Division is finding residents are reserving ramadas for the entire day since there is no fee, however will only use the ramada for 2 hours. The parks staff posts a sign on the ramada listing the reservation hours and the reservation point of contact. The posted signage deters other people from using the ramada since they believe they are reserved, even though they are not in use. Because of these issues, staff decided to develop a ramada policy. The new policy states that reservations must be received 72 hours in advance and can be reserved in 4 hour blocks for a \$10 fee. The \$10 fee is reasonable compared to fees charged by other Valley municipalities. People requesting reservations must complete a short form and provide it to Rec Center staff to verify the ramada is available at the requested time. Staff will approve the application, reserve the ramada, and then give the form back to the applicant so they have the reservation paper in hand when they go to the park that can be presented to others. The form will be placed online and can be submitted via email to Recreation staff.

Board member McCombs asked if the ramadas could be used when not reserved and if there was any fee. Ms. Gomez answered that yes, the ramadas could be used when not reserved and there was no fee. Parks Manager Fred Sanchez also stated there was a tamper proof display board on each ramada that had the reservation's point of contact and reserved time so the public was aware if there was a reservation. Board member Sailor asked about the standard contract language on the form and if it could be tailored specifically to rentals. Ms. Gomez stated the boiler plate language was copied from program registration forms and that the Town's Risk Manager would provide the proper language specific to rentals.

**5c. – Presentation by Doug Strong, Special Events Coordinator regarding upcoming special events**

Mr. Strong provided the Board with an update of upcoming special events. The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Holiday Boutique will be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 6pm with extended hours to 9pm at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza. The additional hours during the Glow on Monroe parade will give attendees more time to shop prior to and during the parade, which brings hundreds of people downtown. The event will feature arts and craft vendors, entertainment, snow, Chihuahua races, and photos with Santa. The photos with Santa will be held in the Town Hall lobby.

Mr. Strong said the next event will be Buckeye Days on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. The popularity of last year's Centennial Days prompted the Town to make it an annual event. On Friday night, the Community Services Department will host a murder mystery dinner titled "Who Shot the Sheriff?" Tickets will go on sale beginning December 8<sup>th</sup> for \$20 a person or \$35 a couple. On Saturday, the Main Street Coalition will coordinate the cattle drive down Monroe Ave. After the cattle drive, the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza will be the site of food and craft vendors, activities, puppet shows, pony rides, and petting zoo at no cost to the public. At night, there will be a rodeo at the Equestrian Center on Miller Ave. Ms. Sedig stated the Town received a gold sponsor from Western Millings that will aid in offsetting the cost of some of the event's components. Board member Villa thought the \$20 and \$35 fee for the Murder Mystery may be too expensive for families in Buckeye and would deter residents from attending. Ms. Sedig said the Town is offering something new and special for residents that do not attend other Town sponsored events. Ms. Sedig added that all of Saturday's components would be free. Mr. Strong stated the Town only has 200 tickets that will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Board member Gross thought the murder mystery dinner would draw residents from communities like Verrado, Sundance and West Park. Chair Bible stated her family is willing to pay a little bit more to have a nice evening. Board member Mros said the Buckeye Senior program offers their special event "Dinner on the Ritz" which draws in other people that don't normally attend senior programs.

**6. Staff Report**

Mr. Wisener briefed the board on the Community Yard Sale, which will be on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

from 8am to 1pm at Town Park. Over 80 yard sale vendors will be participating. Ms. Gomez announced a Teen Glow in the Dark Dance Party at the Rec Center on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Recreation Division is also hosting the annual Skate Jam at the Skate Park on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gomez finished by stating the Quarterly Brochure, "Eye on Buckeye" will be sent to every postal address in the Town of Buckeye in late November. Council Liaison Michelle Hess said the Turkey Fest would be held on Sunday from 2-4pm at the Community Center. During the event, over 400 turkey boxes will be given away. The Fire Department Charities will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers for attendees. Ms. Sedig said the Recing Crew program would be reenacted and would kick off in January with new events.

#### **7. Comments from the Chair and Board Members**

- Teresa Bible – Asked when field lights were turned on. Mr. Sanchez stated lights are turned on for field preps or when fields were reserved by user groups. Ms. Bible also inquired about the amount of money raised at the Halloween Carnival. Mr. Strong answered that over \$19,300 was raised for non-profits in the Buckeye community.
- Alex Villa – Read the article about fire fighters maintaining the cemetery. Asked why the cemetery was not sprinkled instead of flood irrigation. Ms. Sedig answered that the cemetery did not fall under the Board's area and issues should be addressed to the Fire Department or the Town Manager's office.
- Sue Mros – Good to see Doug back. Halloween Carnival was the best ever. Opening of Sundance Park was fantastic. Proud of the Department's accomplishments.
- Dee Dee Sernas – Looking forward to Buckeye Days and seeing the puppet show. Appreciates staff's hard work.
- Michelle McCombs – Heard many positive comments on the Halloween Carnival and was impressed by the crowds. The Senior Bazaar was a wonderful success at the Community Center. A new bingo in Goodyear on Estrella Parkway opened that was formed with the joining of two rotary clubs. Proceeds benefit west valley charities.
- Garnett Sailor – Blown away by all the people at the Sundance Park grand opening. Buckeye is a great community.
- Linda Gross – Excited to serve on the Community Services Board.

#### **8. Next Meeting Suggested Agenda Items- January 16<sup>th</sup>**

No agenda items were suggested by the board.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn meeting at 7:25 pm by Board member Mros and seconded by Board member Sernas. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Teresa Bible, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

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**Robert J. Wisener, Conservation and Project Manager**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Community Services Advisory Board meeting held by the Advisory Board on November 14, 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

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**Robert J. Wisener, Conservation and Project Manager**